

**REMARKS**

By this amendment claims 1, 5, 8, 12-14, 16-18, and 21 have been amended. Claims 1-21 remain in the application.

The title has been amended to be clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. The specification has also been amended to correct a typographical error.

Claims 5, 8-11, and 13-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 5, 8, 13-14, 16, 18 have been amended to comply. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 5, 8-11, and 13-20 be withdrawn.

The statement that claims 8-11 and 17-20 are allowable if amended to overcome the rejection and rewritten in independent form is gratefully acknowledged. These claims have been so rewritten. Accordingly, they are now in condition for allowance.

Claim 20 stands objected to for having previously been marked as original when amended, and has been marked in the present amendment as "Previously Presented." Claim 20 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-7, 12-16, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bakx (US 5,072,435). Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 12, and 21, as amended recite, *inter alia*, "a recording and reading device that includes a first controller and ... an information processing apparatus that includes a second controller." (Emphasis added.) Bakx does not disclose such a

limitation. Bakx discloses "the control unit 5." Col. 4, ln. 18. There is no second controller. Since Bakx does not disclose all the limitations of claims 1, 12, and 21, claims 1, 12, and 21 are not anticipated by Bakx. Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and are patentable at least for the reasons mentioned above. Claims 13-16 depend from claim 12 and are patentable at least for the reasons mentioned above. Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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